

App. No. 10/603,493  
Amendment Dated: August 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of February 10, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed February 10, 2006 has been received and the Examiner's comments carefully reviewed. The Office Action rejected Claims 1-22. Claim 11 was amended to correct an informality. Claims 1, 11, 16 and 22 have been amended. No new matter has been added. For at least the following reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7 and 9-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Yen et al. ("A Web-Based, Collaborative, Computer-Aided Sequential Control Design Tool", IEEE Control Systems Magazine, Vol. 23, No.2, April 2003, pp. 14-19)(hereinafter "Yen"). Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yen in view of Schmidt et al (US Patent No. 6,904,571).

With regard to Claims 1, 16 and 22, the Office Action argues that Yen describes "establishing connection between the client and the server is part of the Web-based software design tool as further described on page 15, column 2, paragraphs 1-2 (see also Fig. 1); the displaying/choosing/modifying/analyzing of the schematic on the client is described on page 16 and illustrated in Fig. 3, which allows the user to select/choose and place the circuit components and their wires (i.e., wiring component) to the desire location on the schematic as well as allowing the user to modify and re-simulate the schematic (i.e., analyze the modified schematic); thus making the wire components and the electrical component movable within the schematic as

App. No. 10/603,493  
Amendment Dated: August 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of February 10, 2006

desired by the user/designer." With regard to Claim 2, the Office Action states that Yen shows "wherein the particular endpoint determination for moving and moving that endpoint of the wire component is part of the modification of the circuit as described on page 16, which all allows both the components as well as the wires to be modified, including making new or modified connections to any other components on the schematic." The Applicants respectfully disagree and present the following for consideration.

On page 16, second column, bullet point three, Yen states that "Users can click on the symbols representing electrical devices in the electrical device panel and select wires from the wire pool to generate the desired electrical circuits." This description, however, only shows that the wires are used to connect the different symbols together. In other words, it appears that Yen discloses connecting one symbol with another symbol using a wire selected from a wire pool. Merely coupling two symbols together is not the same as the recitations included in the Applicants' Claims. For example, the Applicants can find no reference to the recitation "wire components and electrical components that are movable within the schematic." Additionally, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner provide with specificity where Yen discloses "determining an endpoint of the wire component to move; and moving the end point of the wire component." A broad statement within Yen that a user can "select wires from the wire pool to generate the desired electrical circuit" does not teach or suggest this limitation. While the Applicants believe that the claims are allowable as presented, the Applicants have amended the independent claims to more clearly define the invention. Each Independent Claim includes the recitation "wherein the wires are selectable within the schematic and wherein each endpoint

App. No. 10/603,493  
Amendment Dated: August 10, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of February 10, 2006

of the wire may be independently moved." As discussed above, Yen does not disclose selecting wires within a schematic or moving the endpoints of the wires independently.

Additionally, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to point out with more specificity where certain recitations are disclosed in the prior art references. For example the Applicants are unable to locate in Yen anything that resembles the recitations included within Applicants' Claims 6-7. For example, where does Yen disclose "scaling" or "user-controlled panning."

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicant at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Timothy P. Sullivan  
Registration No. 47,981  
Direct Dial: 206.342.6254

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P. O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
206.342.6200

